

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 and 20-32 are pending in the above-identified application. Claim 1 is amended to address a minor informality in punctuation. Claims 8-19 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 20-32 are newly added. Support for newly added Claims 20-23 and 32 can be found at numbered paragraph 0026 of the detailed description and Figs. 1 and 5, for example. Support for newly added Claims 24 and 25 can be found at numbered paragraph 0027, for example. Support for newly added Claims 28 and 29 can be found at numbered paragraph 0033 and Figs. 7A, 7B, and 8, for example. Support for newly added Claims 30 and 32 can be found at numbered paragraph 0032 and Figs. 4, 7A and 7B, for example. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the disclosure was objected to as describing Fig. "7" in the detailed description, but not including a Fig. 7. Claims 11-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Boone (U.S. Patent No. 3,721,333, herein "Boone"). Claims 11-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Stuckey (U.S. Patent No. 4,989,716, herein "Stuckey"). Claims 11-13, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Barenthsen (U.S. Patent No. 5,119,931, herein "Barenthsen"). Claims 11, 12, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Lundahl et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,305,586, herein "Lundahl"). Claims 1-7 were allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-7.

Regarding the objection to the disclosure, the specification is amended to refer to Figs. 7A and 7B, but not Fig. 7. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the disclosure is overcome.

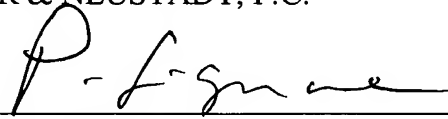
Regarding the rejection of Claims 7-16 as anticipated by each of Boone and Stuckey, the rejection of Claims 11-13, 15, and 16 as anticipated by Barenthsen, and the rejection of Claims 11, 12, 15, and 16 as anticipated by Lundahl, Applicants respectfully submit that as Claims 11-16 are canceled, the rejections are moot.

Regarding newly added dependent Claims 20-32, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 20-32 depend from allowed Claim 1, either directly or indirectly. Accordingly, Claims 20-32 patentably distinguish over the cited references for the same reasons as allowed Claim 1, as well as for their own features.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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